

Message Text

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ACTION OES-09

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FOR OES/APT/BMP

DEPT PASS TO DHUD; NBS; NSF; USGS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TPHY, JA
SUBJECT: REVISION OF GOJ BUILDING STANDARD LAW

1. THE MINISTRY OF CONSTRUCTION PLANS TO REVISE THE EXIST-
ING BUILDING STANDARD LAW AND ITS ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS
BY 1980 TO MAKE BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES MORE
RESISTANT TO EARTHQUAKES. THE NEED FOR REVISION HAS BEEN
FELT MORE KEENLY BY MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN LIGHT OF THE
RESULTS OF SURVEY CONDUCTED ON DAMAGE DONE TO STRUCTURES
BY THE JUNE 12 EARTHQUAKE IN MIYAGI PREFECTURE.

2. AN INTERIM REPORT OF THE SURVEY NOTED THAT BUILDINGS
CONSTRUCTED BEFORE THE 1972 REVISION IN ENFORCEMENT REGULA-
TIONS OF THE LAW HAD BEEN BADLY DAMAGED BY THE EARTHQUAKE.
REPORT NOTED FOLLOWING TYPES OF BUILDINGS HAD BEEN BADLY
DAMAGED: BUILDINGS BUILT ON SOFT GROUND OR HILLSIDES;
BUILDINGS WITHOUT EARTHQUAKE PROOF WALLS IN NORTH-SOUTH
DIRECTIONS; BUILDINGS WHERE THE SECOND AND HIGHER FLOORS
PROTRUDE BEYOND THE PILLARS ON THE GROUND FLOORS; AND
BUILDINGS WHERE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN PILLARS AND BEAMS
WAS IMPERFECT. REPORT ALSO NOTED EARTHQUAKE BROUGHT
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TREMORS OF 250 TO 300 GALS IN HILLY REGIONS AND HARD-
GROUND AREAS AND OF 150-180 GALS IN SOFT-GROUND AREAS.

3. REVISED LAW AND ENFORCEMENT REGULATIONS WILL IN-
CORPORATE THE NEW EARTHQUAKE PROOF DESIGN METHOD
PREPARED BY THE BUILDING RESEARCH INSTITUTE WHICH CALLS
FOR (A) INCORPORATION OF GROUND CHARACTERISTICS IN DESIGN

CALCULATION, (B) INTRODUCTION OF "FINAL DURABILITY"
CONCEPT (A BUILDING'S MAXIMUM POWER TO ENDURE DAMAGE),
(C) REVISION OF SEISMIC HAZARD ZONING CRITERIA.

4. REVISION OF BUILDING STANDARD LAW AND ENFORCEMENT
REGULATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN PHASES AND ON A
PRIORITY BASIS BY 1980 SO AS NOT TO ADVERSELY AFFECT
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BY ONE-TIME SWEEPING REVISION.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

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